

## Declaration and Power of Attorney Patent Application (Design or Utility)

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: 'Safety connection intended for suspending objects, for instance curtain rails, rods, towel racks and the like as well as a curtain rail system and a connecting device'

the	e specification of which		. <u>-</u> .
×	is attached hereto was filed on July 16, 2003 and or PCT International Appamended on	as application serial no plication number (if applicable).	o. 10/620,550 and was

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office all information know to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R.§1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C.§119(a)-(d) or 35 U.S.C.§365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 35 U.S.C.§365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate of PCT International application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application(s)			
Number	Country	Day/Month/Year Filed	
02077955.9	EP	18-07-2002	
Number	Country	Day/Month/Year Filed	
Number	Country	Day/Month/Year Filed	

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

Prior Provisional Application(s)		
Serial Number	Day/Month/Year Filing Date	
Serial Number	Day/Month/Year Filing Date	
Serial Number	Day/Month/Year Filing Date	

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 of any United States application(s), or under 35 U.S.C. §365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R.§1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application:

Prior U.S. or International Application(s)		
Serial Number	Day/Month/Year Filed	Status (patented, pending, abandoned)
Serial Number	Day/Month/Year Filed	Status (patented, pending, abandoned)
Serial Number	Day/Month/Year Filed	Status (patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C.§1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.



## Pow r of Attorney

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Attorney	Registration Number
John W. Albrecht	40,481
M. Jeffer Ali	46,359
Gregg I. Anderson	28,828
Brian H. Batzli	32,960
John L. Beard	27,612
John M. Berns	43,496
Bruce E. Black	41,622
John W. Branch Dennis C. Bremer	41,633 40,528 34,130
Steven C. Bruess Linda M. Byrne Keith Campbell	32,404 P-46,597
Alan G. Carlson	25,959
Philip P. Caspers	33,227
James R. Chiapetta John A. Clifford Richard J. Coldren	39,634 30,247 44,084
Ronald A. Daignault	25,968
Dennis R. Daley	34,994
Leslie E. Dalglish	40,579
Juie R. Daulton Katherine M. DeVries Smith	40,379 36,414 42,157
Mark J. DiPietro	28,707
Robert T. Edell	20,187
Sandra Epp Ryan	39,667
Robert J. Glance Matthew J. Goggin	40,620 44,125
Charles E. Golla	26,896
Alan G. Gorman	38,472
John D. Gould	18,223
Richard Gregson	41,084
John J. Gresens	33,112
Samuel A. Hamer	46,754
Curtis B. Hamre	29,165
Kevin C. Harrison	P-46,759
Brett A. Hertzberg	42,660
Randall A. Hillson	31,838
Richard J. Holzer,Jr.	42,668
Scott W. Johnston	39,721
Natalie D. Kadievitch	34,196
Shaukat Karjeker	34,049
Joseph M. Kastelic	37,160
Denise Kettelberger	33,924
Jeramie J. Keys	42,724
Homer L. Knearl	21,197
Alan W. Kowalchyk	31,535

7		
Katherine M. Kowalchyk		36,848
Paul E. Lacy		38,946
James A. Larson		40,443
Andrew J. Leon		46,869
Christopher J. Leonard		41,940
Mara E. Liepa		40,066
Timothy A. Lindquist		40,701
Lawrence E. Lycke		38,540
Denise L. Mayfield		33,732
Daniel W. McDonald		32,044
William F. McIntyre, Jr.		44,921
M. Todd Mitchem		40,731
Douglas P. Mueller		30,300
A. Shane Nichols		43,836
•		40,123
Daniel M. Pauly		P-46,990
Bryan K. Phillips		
John B. Phillips		37,206
Paul Prendergast		46,068
Melissa J. Pytel		41,512
Terry Qualey	••	25,148
John C. Reich		37,703
Earl D. Reiland		25,767
Lisa A. Samuels		43,080
David G. Schmaltz		39,828
Mark D. Schuman		31,197
Micheal D. Schumann		30,422
Timothy B. Scull		42,137
Gregory A. Sebald		33,280
Mark T. Skoog		40,178
Steven J. Spellman		45,124
Kirstin L. Stoll-DeBell		43,164
John P. Sumner	•	29,114
Erik G. Swenson		45,147
David K. Tellekson		32,314
Jon R. Trembath		38,344
Ido Tuchman		45,924
Marcia A. Tunheim		42,189
Albert L. Underhill		27,403
J. Derek Vandenburgh		32,179
John R. Wahl		33,044
Karrie G. Weaver		43,245
Paul A. Welter		20,890
Brian Whipps		43,261
John E. Whitaker		42,222
J. Scott Wickhem		41,376
Douglas J. Williams		27,054
James D. Withers		40,376
Jonelle Witt		41,980
Tong Wu		43,361
Min S. Xu		39,536
		45,255
Anthony R. Zeuli		40,200

I hereby authorize them or others whom they may appoint to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/organization who/which first sends this

case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instructed otherwise.

Please direct all correspondence in this case to at the address indicated below:

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C. P.O. Box 2903 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903 United States of America

Full Name of Sole or First Inventor			
Family Name	First Given Name	Second Given Name	
ter Braak	Bart	<u> </u>	
	Residence and Citizenship		
City of Residence	State or Country of Residence	Country of Citizenship	
Doorn	The Netherlands	The Netherlands	
	Post Office Address		
Street Address	City	State & Zip Code or Country	
Van Ghentlaan 18	Doorn	3941 WN	
Signature of Inventor		Date 8 Sept 2003	
		8 Sept . 200 S	